Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01657 131558Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 IO-14 $/035~\mathrm{W}$

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O R 131524Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5873

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AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

NAIROBI FOR VOA CHANCELLOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: -

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION; EDITORIALS

BOTH THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA, OWNED BY THE RULING UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UNIP), AND THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, TODAY COMMENT ON THE TOUCHY ISSUE OF SPORTS TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

A SUBJECT UP FOR DISCUSSION AT THE RECENT LONDON COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE.

THE TIMES EDITORIAL SAYS SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD NEITHER BE IN THE UNITED NATIONS, NOR BELONG TO ANY INTERNATIONAL ROGANIZATION AT ALL BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, WHAT THAT GOVERNMENT "STANDS FOR IS THE ANTITHESIS OF WHAT EVERY DECENT NATION IN THE WORLD (EXCEPT RHODESIA AND SOME OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANANA REPUBLICS), "STANDS FOR."

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SOUTH AFRICA, IN THE OPINION OF THE TIMES, BELONGS TO THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES BECAUSE OF THE WEST'S DUPLICITY.

"BY BOYCOTTING EVERY SPORTING EVENT IN WHICH A SYMPATHIZER OF THE RACISTS IS INVOLVED, AFRICA WILL BE SHOWING THAT SHE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE WEST'S DUPLICITY," SAYS THE PAPER.

IT OBSERVES THAT "FOR ZAMBIA, SOUTH AFRICA IS THE GREATEST IMPEDIMENT TO INDEPENDENCE IN NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE."

THE ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, CLAIMING THAT ZAMBIA HAS AMPLE GROUNDS FOR BEING OUTSPOKEN ON THE ISSUE OF ISOLATING THOSE WHO MAINTAIN SPORTS LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, COMMENTS:-

"FOR THE AFRICAN NATIONS, THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA, SHORT OF NATIONALISTS STORMING THEIR WAY INTO PRETORIA, IS THE ONLY WEAPON AT THE COMMAND OF AFRICAN NATIONS. THAT IS SACRIFICE THROUGH BOYCOTTS OF SPORTS EVENTS AT WHICH SOUTH AFRICA AND HER PARTNERS IN CRIME PARTICIPATE."

THE PAPER CONTENDS "THAT BECAUSE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE SO FANATICAL IN THEIR LOVE FOR SPORT, THE STORMING OUT OF THE MONTREAL OLYMPICS LAST YEAR BY 20 COUNTRIES ON ACCOUNT OF NEW ZEALAND WAS A BIG BLOW TO THEM."

"AFRICA SHOULD REMAIN VIGILANT AND MILITANT BY MAINTAINING THIS STIFF POLICY AT FUTURE SPORTS EVENTS," THE PAPER URGES, ADDING THAT "THE IDEA IS THAT THE NON--VIOLENT STRUGGLE SHOULD LEAVE NO ROOM FOR NATIONS SITTING ON THE FENCE OVER THE ISSUE." ITEM USIS LUSAKA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 13-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA01657
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770210-0507 Format: TEL

From: LUSAKA Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1 Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770664/aaaacdpl.tel Line Count: 86

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 27304f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2177469 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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(UNIP), AND THE GOVERNMENT-OWNE TAGS: SOPN, SCUL, SF, ZA, US To: USIA

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/27304f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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